

# OrdnanceReports

News updates from around the world



April 9, 2003



*This publication is produced by the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps Communications Coordinator. The purpose of this publication is to provide Command Information materiel concerning world events and the U.S. military's role in those events. Ordnance specific events will be covered if appropriate. Direct your correspondence to Ed Starnes at 410-278-2415 (DSN 298-2415), or email [edward.starnes@ocs.apg.army.mil](mailto:edward.starnes@ocs.apg.army.mil).*

## Iraqis celebrate as U.S. takes Baghdad

by Ellen Knickmeyer and David Crary

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Saddam Hussein's rule over the capital has ended, U.S. commanders declared Wednesday, and jubilant crowds swarmed into the streets here, dancing, looting, cheering U.S. convoys and defacing images of the Iraqi leader.

"The capital city is now one of those areas that has been added to the list of where the regime does not have control," said Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks at U.S. Central Command in Qatar.

Brooks said that Saddam loyalists were holding out in the north, notably at Saddam's hometown of Tikrit, and still posed a threat, including the possible use of weapons of mass destruction

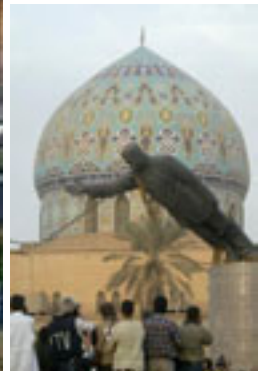
Even as they encountered sniper fire from roving bands of holdout fighters, Marine and Army units swept through Baghdad, seizing or destroying buildings that once housed some of Saddam's most feared security forces. Marine tanks rolled into the heart of the city, on the east bank of the Tigris, greeted by people clapping and waving white flags.

Civilians gestured to the Americans with V-for-victory signs. "We were nearly mobbed by people trying to shake our hands," said Maj. Andy Milburn of the 7th Marines. One Army contingent had to use razor-wire to hold back surging crowds of well-wishers.

**continued on page 2**



*A U.S. Marine M88 recovery vehicle approaches a statue of Saddam Hussein, seen in this image from video, Wednesday, April 9, 2003, in Baghdad, Iraq, as Marines help Iraqis trying to topple the statue. (AP Photo/APTN)*



## **Iraqis celebrate as U.S. takes Baghdad continued**

At police stations, universities, government ministries, the headquarters of the Iraq Olympic Committee, looters unhindered by any police presence made off with computers, furniture, telephones, even military jeeps. One young man used roller skates to wheel away a refrigerator.

"Thank you, thank you, Mr. Bush," some of the looters shouted. An elderly man beat a portrait of Saddam with his shoe, while a younger man spat on the portrait.

Not everyone rejoiced.

"This is the destruction of Islam," said Qassim al-Shamari, 50, a laborer wearing an Arab robe. "After all, Iraq is our country. And what about all the women and children who died in the bombing?"



Even as most of the populace seemed suddenly to feel free of Saddam's control, U.S. officers said their forces faced continued resistance, fierce but disorganized, from small groups of holdout pro-Saddam fighters. The U.S. Central Command reacted cautiously to the euphoria and chaos in Baghdad.

"The regime has lost control in most parts of Iraq," said command spokesman Jim Wilkinson. "There are places up north where they have significant pockets ... so we'll continue to go where those pockets are and reduce them. It'll just take time to find those pockets and destroy them and hopefully they'll surrender."

U.S. commanders focused attention on Tikrit, still a stronghold of loyalist troops, and the northern city of Mosul. Lt. Mark Kitchens, a Central Command spokesman, said special operations forces and airstrikes were "actively engaging" Iraqi forces in both cities.

U.S. special forces and Kurdish fighters seized a strategic hilltop near Mosul; senior Kurdish leader Hoshiyar Zebari called it the most important gain in the region thus far.

The fate of Saddam remained unknown. U.S. experts have yet to gain access to the site in an upscale Baghdad neighborhood that was targeted by four 2,000-pound bombs in a U.S. strike aimed at killing him.

Elsewhere in the capital, U.S. forces steadily expanded their reach, securing a military airport, capturing a prison, setting fire to a Republican Guard barracks. Milburn said the house of Saddam's son Odai was on fire, apparently hit by a bomb.

The Iraqi government's efforts to sustain its public relations campaign collapsed. State television went off the air Tuesday, and on Wednesday, foreign journalists said their "minders" - government agents who monitor their reporting - did not turn up for work. There was no sign of Iraqi Information Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf, whose daily briefings had constituted the main public face

of the regime during the war.

While intent on consolidating their hold on Baghdad, U.S. commanders also were turning their attention to Tikrit, Saddam's hometown in the desert about 90 miles to the north. Defended by well-trained troops, and home to many of Saddam's most devoted followers, the city of 260,000 is considered one of the few remaining strongholds of the Iraqi regime.

The Central Command said coalition airstrikes were targeting the Republican Guard's Adnan division in Tikrit, "shaping the battlefield" before U.S. ground forces move in. Brooks said Iraqi reinforcements were reaching Tikrit, apparently after retreating from positions to the north and south.

The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, one of two main Iraqi Kurdish groups opposing Saddam, claimed Tuesday that Saddam already was hiding in Tikrit. U.S. officials said they didn't know if he had escaped Monday's bombing of a site in Baghdad's al-Mansour neighborhood where he and at least one of his sons reportedly were meeting.

The toll of journalists killed in the war reached 10, with three killed in U.S. military strikes in Baghdad on Tuesday.

Two cameramen, one from Ukraine and one from Spain, were killed when a U.S. tank fired into the Palestine Hotel, where hundreds of journalists are based. U.S. officers initially said hostile fire had been coming from the building; journalists said they witnessed none.

Also, a Jordanian reporter was killed in a U.S. airstrike on the Baghdad office of the Arab television network al-Jazeera, which contended

**continued on page 3**



# Kurdish, U.S. forces seize northern Iraq target

by Brian Murphey

MAQLOUB, Iraq (AP) - U.S. special operations troops and Kurdish peshmerga fighters seized a strategic mountaintop in northern Iraq early Wednesday, eliminating a crucial air defense installation near the government-held city of Mosul.

Celebrations broke out in at least two cities in the Kurdish autonomous region, as people took to the streets to celebrate what they believe is the end of President Saddam Hussein's regime. Some honked their horns, others chanted, "George Bush!" "George Bush!"

U.S. aircraft returned to pound Mosul, and special operations forces were "actively engaging" Iraqi forces there and in Saddam's home city of Tikrit, 125 miles to the south, said U.S. Central Command in Qatar.

Coalition aircraft struck the Iraqi base on the craggy 3,000-foot-high peak before Kurdish ground forces moved forward early Wednesday and won control of the air defense system, which had been used against American war planes.

Hoshiyar Zebari, a leading member of the ruling Kurdistan Democratic Party, said the seizure of the installation about 10 miles northeast of Mosul meant no Iraqi defenses remained between Kurdish-U.S. forces and Iraq's third-largest city.

He said there had been little resistance to the ground assault, suggesting "the demoralizing situation of the Iraqi army."

"From our perspective it was the most important gain ... so far," Zebari said. "This shows the crumbling of the northern front."

The mountain rises steeply from the plain where Mosul sits. An Assyrian Orthodox monastery dating from the 4th Century is built into the rock.

## Iraqis celebrate as U.S. takes Baghdad continued

the attack was deliberate.

On Wednesday, the U.S. branch of Amnesty International joined in the criticism.

"Unless the U.S. can demonstrate that the Palestine Hotel had been used for military purposes, it was a civilian object protected under international humanitarian law that should not have been attacked," Amnesty said.

In the southern city of Basra, which was taken over by British forces this week, looters have been plundering government buildings, universities, even hospitals. A Red Cross representative said the looting could delay relief efforts in the city of 1.3 million.

*Editor's Note: This story was written by David Crary in New York, based on reporting from Ellen Knickmeyer, Ravi Nessman, Chris Tomlinson, Alex Zavis and Hamza Hendawi in Baghdad and other AP reporters in Iraq and elsewhere.*

Small buildings reduced to rubble and twisted wreckage of what was an important Iraqi radar and communications hub showed the effectiveness of the air strikes.

Dozens of Kurdish soldiers, exhausted from the night's fighting, rested on the ground, cradling their rifles in their arms and using their scarves to protect their faces from a fierce wind.

Kurdish commander Sarbest Barbiri said there were believed to be some Republican Guard remnants and Fedayeen militiamen defending Mosul, but that the regular army was defeated or had given up.

"This was the place where Saddam's forces looked down on Mosul. Now we are looking down on what's left of Saddam's army," said Barbiri.

Zebari said control of the peak will allow passage for people wishing to escape the embattled city, which has been repeatedly targeted in coalition air strikes.

He stressed that there would be no unilateral Kurdish move, saying the operation was being coordinated with the Pentagon.

Kurdish forces have also tightened their ring around the key oil center of Kirkuk, and were within sight of the city Tuesday following heavy coalition airstrikes on front-line Iraqi positions.

Control over the northern cities of Mosul and Kirkuk and the oil fields between them is the main objective of the northern campaign to topple Saddam. Kurds consider both cities part of their historical ethnic territory.

In spontaneous demonstrations of joy, people in the Kurdish city of Irbil ran into the streets, and drivers and bicyclists beeped their horns. The cars flew flags and scarves in yellow, the color of the governing Kurdistan Democratic Party in the western sector of the Kurdish autonomous zone.

A group of young boys held aloft an American flag with a picture of Sylvester Stallone emblazoned on the middle. A man riding in the back of a pickup truck flashed a V for victory sign as he passed. Kurdish fighters, piled onto a city police truck, waved their weapons in a victory gesture.

In Sulaymaniyah, in the eastern part of the Kurdish autonomous region, hundreds of people, most of them young, celebrated outside the hotel where most foreign journalists stay.

They swarmed around a square near the hotel, chanting "George Bush!" "George Bush!"

They said Saddam had already fallen, and waved American flags, Kurdish flags and Iraqi flags.

"Now that Saddam is going, there's no more difference between Iraqis and Kurds," said Bakir Mohamad, a 19-year-old agriculture student.

# U.S. forces investigate Iraqi tunnels

by Robert Tanner

The mysterious tunnels of Iraq are rumored to stretch for scores of miles, linking palaces, military strongholds and safe houses, and concealing leaders, treasure or weapons of mass destruction.

For U.S. troops strapping on night goggles and venturing underground, the tunnels are a new kind of battlefield in this war. No maps, no light and no handle - yet - on what they might find.

"For the type of regime we're dealing with, the tunnels represent an ideal spot to conceal weapons and serve as a hideout and in some cases an escape route," said Lt. Mark Kitchens, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command.

Saddam Hussein is said to have built so many tunnels that just about anything could be underground - troops, weapons of mass destruction, the Iraqi president himself.

"There were all sorts of tips and rumors, 'dig under this and you will find that,'" said Ewen Buchanan, a spokesman for the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission.

## Kurdish, U.S. forces seize northern Iraq target continued

A little girl wearing the bright red and yellow traditional Kurdish dress stood up in the sunroof of her parents' car, waving a napkin.

When U.S. special operations troops drove past the demonstration, people cheered and others reached into their car and hugged and kissed them.

The U.S. military said British and U.S. aircraft struck targets in Tikrit on Wednesday, and that American troops tried to block the roads from the capital to the city, which remains Saddam's power base, to prevent Iraqi leaders from fleeing there.

"We certainly are focused on Tikrit," Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks told reporters at U.S. Central Command headquarters in Qatar.

He said U.S. forces expect resistance from a mix of Republican Guards and militia fighters in Mosul and Kirkuk, and that special operations troops and Kurdish soldiers seized a small town north of Mosul and captured 200 fighters. He did not name that town or another Iraqi position 20 miles south of Irbil where he said special operations forces and aircraft destroyed tanks and cargo trucks.

Coalition warplanes have repeatedly bombed targets in northern Iraq, but the advance of ground forces has been slow, in part because of sticky regional politics. The arrival of U.S. forces in Baghdad, however, may signal a more aggressive northern campaign. The estimated 70,000 Kurdish fighters in the region have insisted they are ready any time.

*Associated Press correspondent Borzou Daragahi contributed to this report from Sulaymaniyah, Iraq.*

Buchanan said U.N. arms inspectors in 1998 found a combination of bunkers and tunnels below some of Hussein's palaces, but not the sophisticated network that had been speculated about.

"But that doesn't say that they don't exist," he said.

On Tuesday, at the airport outside Baghdad, 150 soldiers of the 101st Airborne's 3rd Battalion, 3rd Brigade searched a 12-room complex inside a cave with white marble floors, 10-foot ceilings and fluorescent lighting. They found cigarette butts, tea bags and other signs of recent abandonment - but no Iraqis.

"We're going to have to try to figure out where they go," brigade commander Lt. Col. Lee Fetterman told Associated Press writer Kimberly Hefling. "There's no telling."

On Monday, U.S. forces captured an Iraqi colonel in one tunnel who was calling in artillery fire from his hideout.

Also at the airport, a Knight-Ridder news service report described 30 men from 1st Platoon Apache Company entering a tunnel through a "Staff only" doorway below the airport's baggage claim. They found a corridor 20 feet high and 20 feet wide that stretched for hundreds of yards in each direction - but no Iraqis.

Reports, some stretching back years, allege the existence of tunnels and bunkers built by Serbian, German or Chinese engineering firms, leading from palaces to secret hideaways and more.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld repeated those claims in

continued on page 5



*Lance Cpl. Stephen Ferris of Walpole, Mass., left, with India Co., 3rd Batt., 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division, advances on the headquarters of the Fedayeen in Baghdad on Wednesday, April 9, 2003. The Fedayeen are a secret fighting force controlled by Saddam Hussein. (AP Photo/Laura Rauch)*

# Marines find alleged Iraq ‘torture center’

By Adrian Croft

NASSIRIYA, Iraq (Reuters) - U.S. Marines said on Wednesday they had found photographs of burned bodies and a device to deliver electric shocks in what they suspect was a torture center used by Saddam Hussein's security services.

Files, documents and identity cards litter the floor of the low building in the southern Iraqi city of Nassiriya. U.S. Marines who occupy the city believe it used to be an office of Saddam's Baath Party or of the Iraqi intelligence service.

The most sinister part of the building is a dark corner room without windows. The only chink of light enters through a gap around a fan.

Five small cells lead off this room and in one of them was a battery connected to an iron rod which Marine Capt. Pete McAleer said was "probably a primitive torture device."

"It can definitely create a shock and who knows what they did with the iron rod that was electrified," McAleer told reporters.

A metal chair was found nearby, suggesting a kind of "electric chair," McAleer said.

## U.S. forces investigate Iraqi tunnels continued

December, arguing the futility of U.N. searches for weapons of mass destruction.

"They've got enormous miles and miles and miles of underground tunneling," Rumsfeld said. "I don't know how inspectors on the surface of the Earth can even know what's going on in the underground facilities."

Hussein al-Shahristani, a scientist who was imprisoned by Saddam and fled during the 1991 Gulf War, told CBS' "60 Minutes" in February that plans originally called for a subway beneath Baghdad.

Hussein "got all the drawings; he told his military, 'Go ahead and do them but not for a metro, for our weapons of mass destruction. We can hide them, move them around,'" al-Shahristani said. "We believe now it is more than 100 kilometers (60 miles) of very complex network, multilayer tunnels."

But al-Shahristani never saw the tunnels himself, he said.

Few have, said Patrick Garrett of Globalsecurity.org, a military affairs think tank. "There is tons of conjecture on this subject right now," he said, but "there's been no official confirmation or official imagery."

After encountering the caves used by al-Qaida and the Taliban in Afghanistan and the rumors of tunnels here, the U.S. military took steps to ready their troops.

A 1.1-million-acre site with miles of old mining caves in the Mojave Desert in Southern California was turned into a Tunnel Warfare Center in 2001, training troops in the challenges posed underground.

The dark room "can't have been for good things," McAleer said, adding that it was a "reasonable assumption" that the building had been used as a torture center.

Also in the building was a long wooden pole connected to loops of rope. U.S. Marines believe the loops may have been designed to fit over a person's neck and arms to prevent movement.

The corner room is now blackened by fire. Since U.S. Marines found the building, local people have entered it and, according to McAleer, deliberately set fire to the room. "I think they're trying to eradicate what was going on here," he said.

Lance Cpl. James Jeffreys, one of the first Marines to enter the building several days ago, said he had at first taken it to be a police

**continued on page 6**



*U.S. Army soldiers from A Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment search a presidential palace in Baghdad Tuesday, April 8, 2003. The palace was the second they had secured in as many days, both lavish buildings heavily damaged by previous Air Force bombing. (AP Photo/John Moore)*





*Tanks advance across a Baghdad bridge Tuesday. By day's end, U.S. forces controlled two of at least 13 bridges over the Tigris River. (LA Times photo)*

## Afghans killed when coalition bomb misses target

BAGRAM, Afghanistan (Army News Service, April 9, 2003) — Eleven Afghan civilians were killed and one was wounded this morning when a bomb, dropped by coalition aircraft, landed on a house on the outskirts of Shkin, near the Pakistani border

Coalition forces never intentionally target civilian locations, officials said.

The incident occurred when enemy forces attacked an Afghan Militia

Force checkpoint near the Shkin firebase in Paktika province just before midnight last night. Four members of the Afghan Militia Force were wounded in the attack. A quick reaction force from Shkin responded and pursued the attackers toward the border. Close air support was requested and U.S. Marine Corps AV-8 Harriers responded.

**continued on page 10**

## Marines find alleged Iraq 'torture center' continued

sub-station.

But when he reached the dark cell at the rear of the building, he said: "It was obvious that the way they would treat the prisoners here isn't what you'd find in most police facilities around the world."

"We recovered photographs here that were on the floor in a pile that depicted bodies that had been burned. From the positions of the bodies, it appeared they may have been alive when they were ignited," Jeffreys, of Oxnard, California, said.

Reporters did not see the photographs that Jeffreys said he had handed to Marine officers.

He said there had been no one — alive or dead — in the building when the Marines first came upon it.

McAleer, of San Diego, California, said the files found in the building suggested the Iraqi security services kept tabs on a lot of people.

"(It's) just too much like Nazi Germany to me," he said.

No one had come forward to say they had been tortured at this particular building, McAleer said, but he said the Marines had met people in Nassiriya who said they had been mistreated.

One man had shown Marines lacerations on his chest and back he said he had suffered during 15 years in prison and another had given them a report on the Iraqi authorities' treatment of people, including torture, he said.

At a different location in southern Iraq last weekend, British troops found the desiccated remains of as many as 200 people in an abandoned warehouse along with catalogs of grisly photographs of what could be torture victims.

It was not immediately clear how old the remains were but initial indications suggested the people might have died several years ago.

# U.S. to move military base out of Seoul

by Jae-Suk Yoo

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - The United States will move its main military base in South Korea out of the capital as soon as possible, a U.S. official said Wednesday

For decades, the Yongsan Garrison in the heart of Seoul has been a symbol of the U.S.-South Korean military alliance forged during the 1950-1953 Korean War.

But the headquarters also has become a source of friction in recent years. Some South Koreans complain that U.S. forces occupy valuable real estate and sometimes cause trouble in nearby neighborhoods.

"Both the Republic of Korea side and the United States have decided that this is an issue that can't wait any longer for resolution," U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Lawless said after two days of talks with South Korean officials.

Thousands of U.S. soldiers and their families live on the base, which covers 800 acres and houses a hospital, a radio and television station, and schools for U.S. military dependents.

Lawless did not give a time frame or a possible new site for the headquarters, which oversees the 37,000 U.S. soldiers in South Korea.

"We have committed to one another that we would proceed ... as fast as possible to solve what is admittedly a very complex and complicated issue," Lawless said.

Lawless represented the U.S. side in talks on redeploying American troops in South Korea. Last month, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said troops near the border between the two Koreas could be shifted south, moved to other countries in the region or brought home.

South Korea is concerned that such a redeployment would make it more vulnerable to North Korean threats. The two sides did not discuss reducing the number of U.S. troops, Lawless said.

Lawless and South Korean officials agreed that any redeployment plans must not weaken the two nations' ability to deter the North Korean military.

"The two sides agreed that there would be no compromise in the



*U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Lawless, left, talks to the reporters during news conference at the Defense Ministry in Seoul, Wednesday, April 9, 2003. U.S. and South Korean negotiators said Wednesday that any plans to redeploy U.S. troops stationed in the South will not weaken their ability to deter the North Korean military. At right is South Korean chief negotiator Lt. Gen. Cha Young-ku. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)*

combined deterrence of their forces throughout the process of realignment," it said.

The two sides plan to meet at least every two months to determine details of redeployment, officials said.

Tensions with North Korea are high because of the North's suspected nuclear weapons programs, but Seoul and Washington want a peaceful solution.

Most South Koreans tolerate the U.S. military presence, and some benefit economically from it. The South Korean government regards the U.S. troops - many at bases near the frontier - as a "tripwire" that automatically would lead to U.S. involvement in fighting off a North Korean invasion.

Defend America News  
**Global War  
On Terrorism**



**CLICK HERE** for the latest News Photos Features

**www.  
defendamerica.  
mil**

**www.goarmy.com**

## SBCT vehicles bring new dimension to NTC battlefield

FORT IRWIN, Calif., (Army News Service, April 8, 2003) — Soldiers from Fort Lewis, Wash., are at the National Training Center getting a taste of how Army life will be in the 21st Century.

During “Operation Arrowhead Lightning I” at Fort Irwin, Calif., medics are driving larger vehicles, infantrymen are riding in vehicles up to 60 mph, and the engineers are clearing mines while on the go.

The commander’s vehicle, another Stryker variant, allows leaders to control the battle out of the tactical operations center.

“It’s an outstanding vehicle because it provides us uncommon capabilities, never seen in the Army,” said Maj. Chuck Hodges, operations officer, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment.

The Stryker Commander’s Vehicle is so advanced that it can track just about anything on the battlefield with its video display terminal, using the global positioning system. Red icons appear on the screen when the enemy is nearby and an automated voice sounds off with: danger! Enemy nearby!

Blue icons depict friendly forces and by clicking on the icons the unit designation is given.

“It’s quick, agile and quiet,” said Sgt. Jimmy Rogers, from 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment. “This thing even operates better on urban terrain and can go places a tank from the past can’t.”

The Medical Emergency Vehicle is also ions ahead of its predecessor — the field land ambulance, said Sgt. Joseph Harp, a senior line medic.

The MEV provides enough space for four litter and six ambulatory soldiers at a single time.

“The best difference is the speed factor,” said Staff Sgt. Jesus Molina, treatment noncommissioned officer, 2nd Bn., 3rd Inf. Regt. “It allows

us to get there quicker and that could save lives.”

The purpose of the operation is to prepare the Stryker Brigade Combat Team for it’s upcoming certification exercise in May at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La.

On a hot, windless morning the unit was hit with a Nuclear, Biological and Chemical drill. These conditions gave the unit just a taste of what to expect should the unit ever be hit with a Theatre Ballistic Missile, according to Capt. Chris Wong, the SBCT chemical officer.

“(They should) be familiar with what might happen,” Wong said. “There’s always that threat. There should be no difference between training and the real thing.”

Despite the temperature seeming to rise once the soldiers donned their Mission Oriented Protective Posture gear, soldiers were seen throughout the dust bowl preparing their vehicles and personal equipment.

“With things going on in the Middle East, this was very important,” said Staff Sgt. Donald Price, Co. C, 2nd Bn., 3rd Inf. Regt. “It gave us an opportunity to be sure that we have our equipment and our equipment fits.”

“This was good training,” said Sgt. Piotr Kulikowski, a squad leader with 2nd Bn., 3rd Inf. Regt. “We need more of it.”

“It wasn’t overdone,” Price added. “We donned our masks for a while then they said ‘all clear.’”

The wrap-up of NTC will be just the beginning for the Stryker Brigade Combat Team, who will continue to test the effectiveness of the unit at JRTC.

*(Editor’s note: This information was compiled from stories submitted by the 28th Public Affairs Detachment, Fort Lewis, Wash.)*



*Two soldiers with the first Stryker Brigade Combat Team guard the perimeter as their squad reconfigures their Stryker Infantry Carrier Vehicle after it was offloaded from an Air Force C130 Hercules aircraft at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif. (photo by Staff Sgt. Rhonda M. Lawson)*



# General speaks about space role in Iraq

by Maj. Laura Kenney, Army Space Command

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (Army News Service, April 8, 2003) — Army Space Forces are actively engaged in current operations in Iraq and globally.

Brig. Gen. Richard V. Geraci, Army Space Command deputy commanding general, talked about his command's operations at an Association of the U.S. Army chapter meeting in Colorado Springs just a few days after Operation Iraqi Freedom began.

"We've taken an old cliché and made it ours: The sun never does set on Army Space," Geraci said. "The few soldiers you see here today wearing this patch are about all we have left — the rest are deployed around the globe, engaged in our mission of helping the soldier in the foxhole. We are literally up to our eyeballs in current global operations, ensuring that your Army never experiences a day without Space (Command support)."

To underscore the importance of space technology for both civilian and military use, Geraci asked the audience to imagine a day without the use of space.

In the civilian world, that would mean no satellite TV; no tracking of floods or forest fires; no help with search and rescue; no Hubble

telescope; no emergency broadcasting; and terrible, if any, cell phone transmission, Geraci said.

For the military, no use of space would mean reliance on older long-haul comms; no Blue Force tracking to help identify friend from foe; no Global Positioning System to help soldiers navigate; no imagery to prepare combatant commanders before they hit the ground; no video tele-conferencing; no e-mailing home to families; and no early missile warning.

GPS is particularly important to soldiers in the Central Command area of operations as they can continue to move through blinding sand storms and a featureless desert with it, Geraci said.

Geraci asked attending Army Reserve and National Guard members to stand up for recognition.

"We absolutely cannot do our job without the reserve component," Geraci said. "They are working shoulder to shoulder with the active component and doing the terrific job we expect from them. If you want to see true multi-component units, come to Army Space."

The general said he believed so much in the importance of Space Command that he convinced his son-in-law to re-enlist to become a satellite controller.

## White visits families of deployed divisions

by Sgt. Reeba Critser

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, April 9, 2003) — As soldiers were drawing close to Baghdad, Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White visited their rear-detachment commanders, families and co-workers.

Soldier and family issues were the theme throughout the tours to Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Stewart, Ga.; and Fort Campbell, Ky., April 2-4.

"Today's Army is a married Army and consequently, family issues are readiness issues," White said at the Fort Bragg luncheon. "Children are readiness issues.

"Those challenges can only be dealt with by the Army acting as a family," he added.

White met with local Family Readiness Group volunteers to discuss the media's role in the war and how it affects spouses.

"That kind of information flow is a fact of life," White said at the Fort Stewart press conference. "We have to learn to deal with the good and bad of it. Learn the human element of war up close. What it's like to be in a sandstorm, under harsh conditions, etc. It's a tremendous thing. By and large, the embedded media have been careful to sticking to the rules."

White also visited U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers filling the hole left behind by the active components at each post.

"Reservists are indispensable," he said at the Fort Bragg press conference. "We're one Army. Active, reserve component, civilians — all of those pieces have to come together to create a whole Army that is capable of the task in front of them.

"The mobilization and the performance of Guard and the Reserve organization, to me, have been critical to our ability to execute this plan on the scale that we're currently executing."

White also addressed his confidence in the training of the soldiers supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We are entering another phase of the operation," he said at the Fort Campbell press conference. "They're (the soldiers) well-trained, disciplined and will do a great job."

White toured the Soldier Readiness Processing sites and discussed with rear-detachment commanders solutions to make the process smoother.

"It took the Army 220 years to figure out that Army readiness and family readiness are precisely the same," he said. "The Army is one Army and that means all of our families, all of our children, all of us are on one team, and we will take care of our own.

"We have all had our lives changed 18 months ago," White continued. "And we are in the middle of the river on this war on terrorism. But we will win, we will persevere and the reason we will is because the Army is a family. The Army sustains itself. The Army suffers its losses and grieves. But the Army moves on to win. And that's what we're doing."

# Army integrates PERSCOM and AR-PERSCOM

The Department of the Army announced today it would create a single command to perform the functions of the current U.S. Total Army Personnel Command in Alexandria, Va. and U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Command, in St Louis Mo. The command will integrate the two existing organizations into a multi-component field operating agency (FOA) under the Army G-1 to better meet the future needs of Army soldiers and civilians. The Civilian Personnel Operations Center Management Agency (CPOCMA) will realign into this FOA at a later date. These decisions are the result of a recommendation of an Army-level Human Resources Integrated Process Team (HRIPT) that convened last year. That Task Force made several recommendations affecting FOA-level operational support to HQDA that have been since approved by the Secretary of the Army.



involve the active Army, Army Reserve, National Guard, DA civilians and contractors Le Moyne added. "This will have long-lasting impacts on our Army's future and our support operations. This is not an easy task."

"The organizational realignment of PERSCOM and AR-PERSCOM is a historical milestone in Army Transformation. This integration will serve as the foundation for changing the manner in which we care for the Army's most valuable resource and foundation, its people," said Lt. Gen. James Helmly, the Chief of Army Reserve. "We are excited about the opportunities this realignment represents and will work energetically to fully realize the

immense potential improvement this will bring."

"We see a tremendous opportunity to improve the quality of personnel support to our soldiers, families and civilian workforce as we transform the Human

Resource functions of our Army," said Lt. Gen. Roger Schultz, the Director of the Army National Guard. "We believe we can team where appropriate and integrate some of the personnel systems of all Army components to improve customer service while at the same time protecting the state control of our Army National Guard as exercised by the Governors and state Adjutants General."

"Establishing a single command for civilian personnel operations will allow for more efficient and effective servicing of the Army's workforce," said Mr. David Snyder, the Assistant G1 for Civilian Personnel Policy. "While we will face many challenges in making this change, the hard work ahead is the right thing to do for all Army civilian employees worldwide."

PERSCOM and AR-PERSCOM will retain their respective names and unit insignia until a date to be determined. "This is an opportunity to demonstrate we are 'The Army' and a step closer to being on the objective when the Objective Force arrives," said Maj. Gen. Dorian T. Anderson, executive agent for the effort, during a discussion with the HR Transition TF.

The HRTTF will plan and execute actions related to postal operations, personnel and civilian pay functions, and other human resource functions.

Other human resource realignments include:

- Realign policy, resource and administrative control of Civilian Personnel Advisory Centers and Civilian Personnel Operations Centers under CPOCMA.
  - Consolidate policy and operations from all Senior Executive Service personnel under the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower & Reserve Affairs).
- For more information, please visit <https://www.perscomonline.army.mil/hrc>.

In February, the G-1 directed the establishment of a multi-component task force to oversee the implementation of the Secretary's decision. The Human Resources Transition Task Force (HRTTF) should "concentrate on process re-engineering to support mergers and re-alignment," said Lt. Gen. John Le Moyne, the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1. The HRIPT recommendations are far-reaching, complex, and

## Afghans killed when coalition bomb misses target continued

Two groups of five to 10 enemy personnel were spotted and the Harriers engaged one group with cannon fire.

Another group of enemy forces was identified and close air support attempted to engage them with a GBU-16, a 1,000-pound, laser-guided bomb. That bomb missed the intended target and landed on the house. The circumstances of the bombing are being investigated, officials said.

No coalition forces were injured in the attack. The four wounded AMF soldiers and the wounded civilian were medically evacuated to Salerno Air Field, where they were reportedly in stable condition. There is no assessment on enemy forces at this time, officials said.

In another area of Afghanistan, elements of the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Coalition Task Force 82, and Special Operations forces, launched "Operation Resolute Strike" in the vicinity of Sangin district, in Hilmand province, the morning of April 8.

The combined air assault and ground attack involved more than 500 soldiers and attack and assault helicopters. Forty-one people were initially detained and 34 have been released, officials reported. Coalition forces recovered weapons, ammunition and explosives. The operation is ongoing, officials said.

(Editor's note: Information taken from a release submitted by the Bagram Press Center.)

# Coalition medics provide care to Iraqi soldiers, civilians

by Kathleen T. Rhem, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, April 8, 2003 – American combat medics are treating scores of Iraqi civilians and service members throughout that country, the Pentagon's chief spokeswoman said today.

"There are nearly 300 wounded Iraqi soldiers and civilians being treated in coalition hospitals, and many more are being treated by our medics on the battlefield," Torie Clarke, assistant defense secretary for public affairs, said in a Pentagon briefing today.

She added that 75 Iraqi prisoners of war are being treated "for broken bones, gunshots and shrapnel wounds" aboard the hospital ship USNS Comfort in the Northern Arabian Gulf. The Comfort is a 1,000-bed floating trauma center with dozens of doctors and nurses, its own translators and on-board operating rooms.

During the briefing, Clarke showed a short video that included shots of American military medical personnel treating several Iraqi children, a civilian woman and an elderly man for illnesses.

"The children are the ones who can touch your hearts the most," Clarke said in relaying the tale of a badly burned Iraqi 6-month-old girl who British forces airlifted to Liverpool, England, for medical treatment. She said the child sustained her injuries in a house fire "unrelated to any fighting."

She also told of an Iraqi prisoner receiving medical care at a U.S. Navy facility who was so impressed by the humane treatment he received that he decided to assist the coalition by providing information about enemy positions in the southern port city of Umm Qasr.

"He told our medical personnel that in all of his 27 years he had never been treated with such care and respect," Clarke said of the young Iraqi.

Clarke and Army Maj. Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, vice director of operations for the Joint Staff, expressed their condolences to the families of several Marines and soldiers killed in recent days in fighting in Iraq, as well as to the families of several journalists killed.

Broadcast reports indicate at least two journalists died when an American tank shot a round into the downtown Baghdad hotel where many foreign journalists are working. The reports say the American tanker was firing at a sniper in the area. Clarke and McChrystal could not confirm details of the incident.

Clarke noted that defense officials have repeatedly warned news organizations not to send reporters "unilaterally" – that is, not embedded with American troops – into Baghdad. "A war zone is a dangerous place," she said.

In response to questions from the media on the appropriate level of force, McChrystal said he felt it's important to "put ground combat into perspective."

"The forces that were moving up and into Baghdad didn't just end

up in Baghdad," he said. "They fought their way there."

The general said coalition forces have the "inherent right" to defend themselves. "When they are fired at, they not only have the right to respond, they have the obligation to respond to protect the soldiers with them and to accomplish the mission at large," he said.

Updating the operational situation on the ground, McChrystal said that coalition forces now have a "substantial presence" in Baghdad and continue their efforts to isolate the city.

"We're conducting raids from a couple of directions into Baghdad proper and rooting out resistance wherever we find it," he added.

He noted that coalition air forces have air supremacy over "the entire country, which means the enemy's incapable of effective interference with coalition air operations."

McChrystal listed some impressive statistics about operations to date in Iraq: Coalition forces have flown more than 30,000 fixed-wing sorties, moved more than 10,000 tons of cargo by air, dropped more than 20,000 munitions – 70 percent to 80 percent of them precision-guided — and provided more than 37 million gallons of fuel during aerial refueling missions.



*United States Marines signal an Iraqi bus to turn around in Baghdad Wednesday, April 9 2003. President Saddam Hussein's government is no longer in control of Baghdad and coalition forces have secured "significant parts" of the Iraqi capital, U.S. officials said Wednesday. (AP Photo/Jerome Delay)*

**OrdnanceReports  
are archived at  
[www.goordnance.apg.  
army.mil/ordnancereports.htm](http://www.goordnance.apg.army.mil/ordnancereports.htm)**



# Rumsfeld praises progress of war in Iraq

by Pauline Jelinek

WASHINGTON (AP) - U.S. led forces are liberating Baghdad and removing the Saddam Hussein regime from power, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Wednesday, declaring it "a good day for the Iraqi people."

"Saddam Hussein is now taking his rightful place alongside Hitler, Stalin, Lenin, Ceausescu in the pantheon of failed brutal dictators and the Iraqi people are well on their way to freedom," Rumsfeld told a Pentagon briefing.

Rumsfeld described as "breathtaking" the many scenes broadcast around the world showing jubilant Baghdad residents greeting arriving U.S. forces.

Rumsfeld and Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, cautioned that despite the day's developments, there still remained work to do and hard fighting.

Other Iraqi cities are still being contested," even though the capital was not, Rumsfeld said.

He said that U.S.-led forces still needed to find the seven American prisoners of war who were captured by Iraqi troops and locate the regime's weapons of mass destruction.

Rumsfeld encouraged Iraqi scientists, military officers and others to come forward with information, saying "rewards are available to those who help us."

Myers said there were still Iraqi paramilitary fighters operating west of Baghdad and pockets of resistance to the north.

"We must not and should not become overconfident," Myers said.

Myers said there were more than 10 regular Iraqi army divisions intact in the north and one brigade of the Republican Guard.

The Pentagon officials shed no new light on Saddam's personal status after Monday's U.S. bombing in a residential area of the capital that had targeted him and his sons.

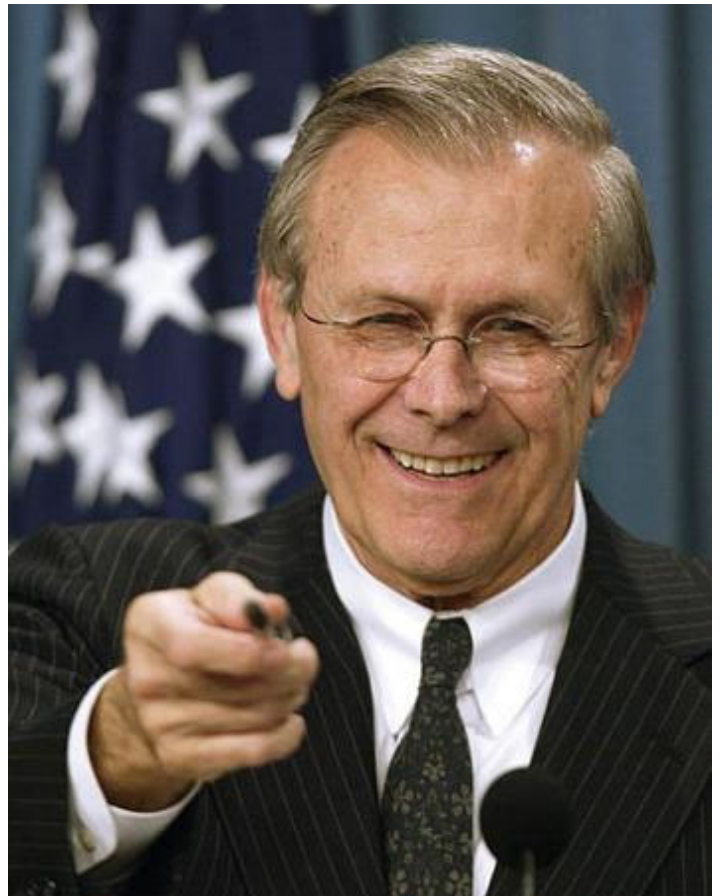
He said there was intelligence suggesting that senior regime leaders were escaping to Syria and beyond. He answered "don't know" to questions about whether Saddam was dead or alive, or if he was in the bombed building.

"He's either dead, or he's incapacitated. Or he's healthy and cowering in some tunnel someplace trying to avoid being caught," Rumsfeld said.

"He's not been around, he's not been active," Rumsfeld noted.

He said it was hard to find a single person. "It is hard to find them when they're alive and mobile, it's hard to find them when they're not well and it's hard to find them if they're buried under rubble."

Rumsfeld also had stern words for Syria, reiterating earlier assertions



*Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld smiles as he points to a reporter during the Wednesday April 9, 2003, briefing at the Pentagon, Washington. "Saddam Hussein is now taking his rightful place alongside Hitler, Stalin, Lenin, Ceausescu in the pantheon of failed brutal dictators and the Iraqi people are well on their way to freedom," Rumsfeld told a Pentagon briefing.(AP Photo/Rick Bowmer)*

that the government was serving as a conduit for military equipment, including night-vision goggles, heading to Iraqi forces.

"They would be well advised not to provide military equipment to Iraq," he said. "I find it notably unhelpful."

Rumsfeld also said there is some intelligence indicating the Syrian government was helping senior people from Saddam's regime escape into Syria and then onward.

Asked if other countries beyond Iraq were potential targets for use of U.S. military force, Rumsfeld said: "No one is throwing down the gauntlet....I have nothing to announce. We're still dealing with Iraq."

Rumsfeld and Myers briefed reporters as American forces pushed into Baghdad with new freedom of movement. They were moving throughout the capital to seize and destroy buildings, having abandoned the brief in-and-out forays into Baghdad begun over the weekend to clean out resistance in the capital piece-by-piece.

**continued on page 13**

## U.S. uniforms found at Iraqi prison — no POWs

AS SAYLIYA, Qatar (Reuters) -The U.S. military has not yet found servicemen and women listed as prisoners of war in Iraq, a senior American general said on Wednesday as U.S. forces strengthened their hold on the capital, Baghdad.

Brigadier General Vincent Brooks told a briefing at U.S. Central Command headquarters in Qatar that marines had found U.S. military uniforms at a prison in southeast Baghdad on Tuesday.

“We were certainly aware that the Rashid prison near the Rashid airport had a history of being used to hold military prisoners,” he said.

“We did not find any prisoners of war or any human remains in the

area,” he added, saying he did not want to draw conclusions about the state of any U.S. prisoners of war.

The U.S. military lists seven servicemen and women as prisoners of war. It lists 10 as missing. Iraq showed the prisoners of war on television earlier in the conflict.

Brooks said there were names on some of the uniforms but he declined to say what they were.

U.S. Marines pushed into southeast Baghdad on Tuesday, taking over the Rashid military airport and the nearby prison. On Wednesday, U.S. forces advanced across Baghdad, securing the center but not all of the city.



*U.S. Army Spc. John Dresel from Oxford, Conn. is kissed by an Iraqi child in Baghdad Wednesday, April 9, 2003. The soldiers from the A Company 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment took over a section of northern Baghdad with a warm welcome from many residents, but under sporadic rocket and small arms fire. (AP Photo/John Moore)*



*A gunner sits on top of his Bradley armored vehicle in front of an Iraqi airways plane as he secures the runway at Baghdad's International airport, after dozens of U.S. helicopters arrived April 9, 2003. President Bush was heartened by 'very good' progress in Iraq, a senior administration official said, but he cautioned the war was not over. Reuters photo.*

### Rumsfeld praises progress of war in Iraq continued

The Defense Department briefed senators on the fast-moving developments.

“It’s a matter of time,” Sen. John Warner, R-Va., chairman of Armed Services Committee, said after the closed-door meeting on Capitol Hill.

“It’s obvious that the end is near,” said Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan, top Democrat on Armed Services Committee.

One question, for instance, was what would happen in Baghdad’s residential areas, where officials say it is possible some Iraqi forces have taken refuge and could try to regroup.

Another was whether the greater ability to move around would help coalition forces find Saddam and other leadership figures who may still be alive, the eight missing and seven captured American soldiers, and the weapons of mass destruction the Bush administration said were the reason for waging the war.

At police stations, universities, government ministries, the headquarters of the Iraq Olympic Committee, looters unhindered by any police presence made off with computers, furniture, even military jeeps. Iraqis danced in the streets, waving rifles, palm fronds and flags, thrusting their arms in the air and flashing the V-for-victory sign.

Some of Saddam’s forces were still in his birthplace and northern stronghold of Tikrit, some 100 miles north of Baghdad, and U.S. special forces were engaging them, defense officials said.

One official said it was possible that remaining regime officials could try to make a last stand in Tikrit.

A relatively smaller ground component of special operations forces was working with local Kurdish fighting forces in the north. The coalition has been using air strikes nightly in an effort to degrade military units there.





*Iraqi men march on Warren Ave., in Dearborn, Mich., Wednesday, April 9, 2003 after news reports showed U.S. troops in Baghdad's town center. (AP Photo/Carlos Osorio)*

## Ex - POW Lynch leaves Germany hospital unit

LANDSTUHL, Germany (AP) — Rescued U.S. POW Jessica Lynch was moved out of intensive care at a military hospital in Germany on Wednesday and is spending more time talking with her family as she recovers.

Lynch, a 19-year-old Army private first class from Palestine, W.Va., was captured March 23 after her 507th Maintenance Company convoy was ambushed in the southern Iraqi city of Nasiriyah. She was rescued from a hospital in the city April 1 by U.S. commandos and airlifted to Germany.

She was moved from intensive care to a regular medical ward Wednesday morning and ate a breakfast of pancakes and strawberries, said Capt. Norris Jones, a spokesman for the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

Doctors say she may be well enough by week's end to be released.

Lynch is being treated for a head wound, an injury to her spine and fractures to her right arm, both legs, and her right foot and ankle.



*Capt. Pete McAleer of San Diego, Calif., with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit shows a little girl's ID found among documents strewn in an abandoned Iraqi security facility, which included a suspected torture chamber, in Nasariyah, southern Iraq on Wednesday, April 9, 2003. (AP Photo/Itsuo Inouye)*





## **National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day, 2003**

Americas former Prisoners of War are national heroes whose service to our country will never be forgotten. These brave men and women who fought for America and endured cruelties and deprivation as prisoners of war helped to protect our Nation, liberated millions of people from the threats of tyranny and terror, and advanced the cause of freedom worldwide.

This year, our Nation commemorates the 50th anniversary of the signing of the armistice to end armed conflict in the Korean War. We remember Operation Little Switch, conducted April through May 1953, that freed 149 American POWs, and Operation Big Switch, conducted August through September 1953, which returned 3,597 Americans to our country. Finally, Operation Glory, conducted July through November 1954, was responsible for the return of the remains of 2,944 Americans from North Korea. During this observance, we also recognize and honor the more than 8,100 Americans still unaccounted for from the Korean War.

This year also marks the 30th anniversary of Operation Homecoming, in which 591 American POWs from Vietnam were returned. We also recognize and honor those Americans still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.

All of these individuals are to be honored for their strength of character and for the difficulties they and their families endured. From World War II, the Korean War, and Vietnam, to the 1991 Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and other conflicts, our service men and women have sacrificed much to secure freedom, defend the ideals of our Nation, and free the oppressed. By answering the call of duty and risking their lives to protect others, these proud patriots continue to inspire us today as we work with our allies to extend peace, liberty, and opportunity to people around the world.

As we honor our former POWs, we are reminded of our current POWs, captured in Operation Iraqi Freedom. We will work to secure their freedom, and we pray for their speedy and safe return. These brave men and women in uniform follow in the footsteps of these former POWs who placed country above self to advance peace in a troubled world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 9, 2003, as National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day. I call upon all the people of the United States to join me in remembering former American prisoners of war by honoring the memory of their sacrifices and in praying for the safe return of our POWs. I also call upon Federal, State, and local government officials and private organizations to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

**GEORGE W. BUSH**



*A destroyed Iraqi T55 tank sits near a portrait of Saddam Hussein south of Al Qurnah, Iraq, Wednesday April 9, 2003. (AP Photo/Ian Jones, Pool)*



*A statue of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is seen through the rubble of the command and control center of the headquarters of the Special Republican Guard, Hussein's most loyal troops, in this image from video, Tuesday, April 8, 2003, after U.S. troops of the 101st Airborne Division stormed the complex. (AP Photo/APTN)*



*A boy loots a government store in the Iraqi capital Tuesday, April 8, 2003, as U.S. Army forces look on. Elsewhere in the city, American and Iraqi forces engaged in intense fighting for control of Baghdad Tuesday. (AP Photo/John Moore)*



*Children in the Iraqi town of Basra, step on a portrait of Saddam Hussein Tuesday April 8, 2003. (AP Photo/Toni Nicoletti/Daily Record, Pool)*

**www.goordnance.  
apg.army.mil**